

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 19, 1998 LB 695, 695A, 1073, 1089, 1108, 1129, 1162

CLERK: (Resumed taking roll call vote. See pages 1178-79 of the Legislative Journal.) 26 ayes, 16 nays on the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Suttle amendment is adopted. I raise the call. Items for the record, please.

CLERK: Amendments by Senator Hilgert to (LB) 1089 to be printed; Senator Wesely to (LB) 1162; Senator Landis, (LB) 1073; Senator Lynch to (LB) 1129. Enrollment and Review reports (LB) 695, (LB) 695A as correctly engrossed. (See pages 1179-85 of the Legislative Journal.)

Next amendment, Senator Tyson, AM3887. (See AM3887 on pages 1156-57 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Chair recognizes Senator Tyson, to open on his amendment.

SENATOR TYSON: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. The amendment that I have filed, number 3887, is an unusual amendment to an appropriations bill in that it seeks not to increase or decrease the amount of the appropriation. The items covered are the regional centers of Hastings, Norfolk, and Lincoln. The amount of money from the original line item does not change. What does change is that the individual budgets of each one of these centers is delineated as a separate line item and the purpose of this is to lessen the flexibility of Health and Human Services to act along the lines of their current reorganization. The intent language is very simple. It is the intent of the Legislature that the department shall not begin to transition services to the community and decrease the number of beds authorized for use as of January 1, 1997, until January 1, 1999. This amendment is simply a way to protect the state of Nebraska's investment in the infrastructure of the regional centers. It separates the regional centers' budgets out of the lump sum and it places them as line items. That's all that it does. Senator Chambers this morning commented on a line from George Bernard Shaw's "Pygmalion." From the musical version of that when Alfred P. Doolittle is seeking coin for drink, he goes up to an acquaintance on the street and before he has a chance to ask, the man says, not a bloody farthing, and that's what I